

AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. No. 09/870,482

REMARKS

Upon entry of the claim amendments, Claims 4, 11-15, and 17-22 will be all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-3.

Applicants have incorporated the subject matter of original Claims 9 and 10 (in the alternative) into Claim 4. Claims 5-10 have been canceled.

Applicants have incorporated the subject matter of original Claim 16 into Claim 15. Claim 16 has been canceled.

No new matter has been added.

The Office Action contains the following rejections:

Claims 4 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by WO 01/09053 ("WO '053";

Claims 4 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over WO '053; and

Claims 4-9, 12-19, and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,630,242 ("US '242") in view of Rekers et al. (EP 0 348 024 and U.S. Patent No. 4,846,846).

Applicants respectfully traverse each of the rejections. The amended claims are not disclosed or suggested by the cited art.

Claims 4 and 15 are the independent claims pending in the application.

Claim 4 has been amended to incorporate therein the subject matter of original Claims 9 and 10 (in the alternative).

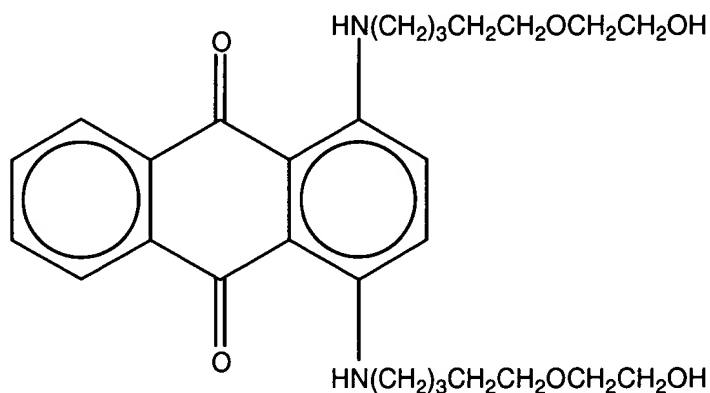
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With respect to the alternative in amended Claim 4 related to the subject matter of original Claim 10, the Examiner has already agreed that it is allowable. Applicants refer to Section Nos. 7 and 8 (page 6) of the Office Action, wherein the Examiner indicates that original Claim 10 contains allowable subject matter.

With respect to the alternative in amended Claim 4 related to the subject matter of original Claim 9, the Examiner's position is that US '242 teaches radiation-curable optical fiber coating compositions and Rekers et al. teach polyurethane resins colored with anthraquinone dyes as claimed in Claim 9.

Applicants respectfully disagree. The subject matter of original Claim 9, *i.e.*, an anthraquinone dye having the formula



is not disclosed or suggested by Rekers et al.

Turning to independent Claim 15, it has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of original Claim 16. Accordingly, Claim 15 now requires the radiation-curable group to be an ethylenically unsaturated group or an epoxy group.

The Examiner's position appears to be that US '242 teaches chemically modifying a dye or dye precursor to include reactive functionality, but fails to mention anthraquinone dyes. The Examiner appears to rely on Rekers et al. for the teaching of anthraquinone dyes having two isocyanate groups (Z and Z') as reactive groups.

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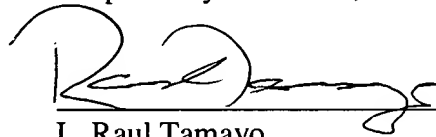
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However, Rekers et al. does not disclose or suggest the use of an ethylenically unsaturated group or an epoxy group as the reactive group on the anthraquinone dye. Lin does not disclose or suggest anthraquinone dyes in general. Therefore, amended Claim 15 is patentable over the applied art.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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